



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Sandra Gioia Treadway
Librarian of Virginia

Library of Virginia Hosts Quarterly First Fridays Events as Part of its 200th Anniversary Celebration

First Fridays series features history, local artwork, creative activities and more.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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RICHMOND, VIRGINIA – As part of its 200th anniversary activities, the Library of Virginia will present a **2023 First Fridays Series** (www.lva.virginia.gov/public/first_fridays), with quarterly events scheduled for March 3, June 2, Aug. 4 and Dec. 1. The free evenings will feature *200 Years, 200 Stories: An Exhibition*, original works by local artists on the theme “Virginia Stories” (see “Artist Call for Entries” below), displays of items from the Library’s collections, open mic entertainment and hands-on creative activities. For more information, contact Nan Carmack at 804.692.3792 or nan.carmack@lva.virginia.gov. Learn more about the Library’s anniversary events at www.lva.virginia.gov/200.

SCHEDULE: 2023 First Fridays at LVA

Fridays: 5:00–8:00 p.m. | Library of Virginia Lobby & Conference Rooms | Free

Free underground parking is accessible from either 8th or 9th Street.

March 3 | First Fridays at LVA | Collections Show & Tell

Venture east from Richmond’s Arts District for quarterly First Fridays at the Library of Virginia! Join us to enjoy refreshments and view exhibitions; listen to open mic poetry, prose or music; and take part in a creative activity. March’s theme is Collections Show and Tell. Learn about archival preservation and bring your own photos, books or family documents to discuss preserving your family stories with the Library’s conservator, Leslie Courtois. Enjoy a display of original items from the Library’s collections and then use copies of collection resources to create your own collage.

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June 2 | First Fridays at LVA | Maps: Your Place in Virginia

Venture east from Richmond's Arts District for quarterly First Fridays at the Library of Virginia! Join us to enjoy refreshments and view exhibitions; listen to open mic poetry, prose or music; and take part in a creative activity. June's theme is Maps: Your Place in Virginia. Make your own map listing places you've lived in Virginia, your path to the commonwealth or your favorite locales. Add your own creative touch to copies of maps from the Library's collections.

Aug. 4 | First Fridays at LVA | Your Virginia Story

Venture east from Richmond's Arts District for quarterly First Fridays at the Library of Virginia! Join us to enjoy refreshments and view exhibitions; listen to open mic poetry, prose or music; and take part in a creative activity. August's theme is Your Virginia Story. Enjoy an evening with the storytelling organization Secretly Y'all as community members share their Virginia experiences. Use prompts and hashtags to record or write your own story.

Dec. 1 | First Fridays at LVA | Sharing Your Traditions

Venture east from Richmond's Arts District for quarterly First Fridays at the Library of Virginia! Join us to enjoy refreshments and view exhibitions; listen to open mic poetry, prose or music; and take part in a creative activity. December's theme is Sharing Your Traditions. View cookbooks, scrapbooks and music ephemera from the Library's collections and create your own minibook to begin your own record of traditions.

Artist Call for Entries

The Library is accepting artwork submissions for "First Fridays Exhibitions – Virginia Stories," which will be displayed during our quarterly First Fridays events. Works should explore Virginia experiences, communities or culture and submissions must include a paragraph describing the Virginia story told by the artwork. Virginia artists of all ages and skill levels are eligible to enter. Submissions are open through Oct. 15, 2023. Find more information here:

www.lva.virginia.gov/documents/4REV_2023_First_Fridays_Exhibition_Application_010323_Fillable.pdf?blm_aid=0

Related images are available here:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ywv7htbf6iuats4/AAD_nL7sUE96pHdRST97vjIfa?dl=0

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ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

The Library of Virginia is the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our online offerings attract nearly 3.8 million website visits per year, and our resources, exhibitions and events bring in more than 100,000 visitors each year. The Library's collections, containing more than 130 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens. The Library is located in downtown Richmond near Capitol Square at 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Learn more at www.lva.virginia.gov.